

**Growth Directorate**  
**Nazeya Hussain**

Your Refs: F0008, F0010, F0011, F0021, F0057 and F0058

My Ref:

Enquiries to: Hannah Harris

7th December 2018

Response by email to:  
Caroline Scott  
[carolineshah@shahscott.com](mailto:carolineshah@shahscott.com)



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Surrey KT1 1EU

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Dear Mrs Scott,

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST**  
**REF NUMBERS: F0008, F0010, F0011, F0021, F0057 and F0058**

I refer to your request for information received on 12th, 13th and 23rd November 2018 concerning the Direction of Travel and the Opportunity Area.

**F0008**

**Please can you send me the following documents:**

**i. Adoption Statement issued for The Direction of Travel, and**

The Direction of Travel is not a statutory planning document, therefore there is no requirement to produce an adoption statement.

**ii. The Statement of Public Participation for the same document,**

Annex 2 of the Growth Committee Report from 13 October 2016 was the Statement of Consultation for the Direction of Travel. This can be found [here](#).

The Council's Statement for Community Involvement can be found [here](#)

**both as required under Section 12 of the Town and Country Planning Act**

N/A - This reference to S12 of the The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) refers to Supplementary Planning Documents, which the Direction of Travel is not.

**F0010**

**Please send me two copies of the Direction of Travel draft document: Firstly, in exactly the form it went to growth committee in June 2016 and secondly in the form it went to committee in October 2016.**

All committee papers are publicly available. The consultation draft that went to committee on 9 June 2016 is available [here](#).

The final version that went to committee on 13 October 2016 is available [here](#).

**Please also send me all reports and information of whatsoever kind relating to The Direction of Travel document that was presented to Growth Committee at each of the Committee meetings above.**

All papers and information relation to the Direction of Travel that were presented to Growth Committee are publicly available via the links below:

[9 June 2016 Growth Committee Papers](#)

[13 October 2016 Growth Committee Papers](#)

**The information should include all the consultation responses as they were presented to Committee as well as any other information.**

Annex 3 of the 13 October 2016 Growth Committee Papers includes all the responses received in relation to the Direction of Travel.

#### **F0011**

**Please can you send me each, any and every legal opinion that the Council or any Committee or Board thereof, including the Strategic Growth Board, received in the course of preparing The Direction of Travel document that went to Growth Committee in June 2016 and October 2016?**

**As the Direction of Travel document has now been approved by the Council, I believe that it is in the public interest for residents to understand the legal issues that arose in its formation and that there can be no justification for further concealment of such opinions. Further, the Direction of Travel is being used to direct growth in the Borough in the evolving Local Plan and therefore residents have an overwhelming interest to know the legal basis on which this document was progressed as well as to be informed of any opinion of lawyers as to the weight that such document has in planning terms.**

Information not held. Although the agendas sent in FOI CAS-1031248 refer to Counsel's advice, officers cannot find this information. There is nothing to suggest that this information was written rather than verbal, which would explain why this information cannot be found.

#### **F0021**

**In the Introduction to the Consultation Statement for the Direction of Travel document, you state that it "clarifies the strategic policy basis" for the work and its "alignment with the London Plan".**

**Please can you provide information that clarifies the "strategic policy basis" for the Direction of Travel and information that gives evidence of the specific London Plan policies that the Direction of Travel supports?**

Paragraph A1.4 (Page 354) of the adopted [London Plan \(FALP, 2016\)](#) states:

*"The Mayor is working with boroughs and other partners to identify, assess and realise the potential for new Opportunity and Intensification Areas in terms of Policy 2.13 including in the London boroughs of Haringey (Haringey Heartlands), Sutton (Sutton Hospital), and Hounslow (Great West Corridor including the 'Golden Mile') and in the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames (Kingston Town Centre)."*

This, together with the adopted Direction of Travel which was jointly prepared by the Council and the GLA set out the strategic policy basis in realising the potential for new Opportunity and Intensification Areas in London.

## **F0057**

In response to FOI Act CAS - 1031108, the council states that "three amendments" were made to the council's response to the GLA's consultation on Further Alterations to the London Plan "as a result of public consultation".

**1. Please can you give me exact details of the amendments that were made and of the comments to which they responded**

Full details of the three amendments and other proposals / issues are set out in the letter sent to the Mayor on 10th April 2014, which was attached to FOI CAS-1031108. This is reattached to this email for reference.

**2. Can you give me details of the "public consultation" that took place?**

As stated in FOI CAS-1031108, no public consultation took place in relation to the Further Alterations to the London Plan, therefore no documents are available. This question was answered fully in FOI CAS-1031108.

The wording in the letter to the Mayor of London, dated 10th April 2014 stated

*"Please find enclosed this Council's consultation response to the proposed FALP."*

This does not mean that the Council undertook public consultation, but instead the GLA ran a public consultation on the Further Alterations to the London Plan, which the Council responded to in the letter, which was enclosed with FOI CAS-1031108 on 14th November 2016.

## **F0058**

This FOI was the same as F0057. Please see response to the above.

The only information that the Council have since found that perhaps wasn't sent to you before under FOI CAS-1031248 is a presentation which was given at the Opportunity Area Strategic Growth Board on 24th April 2015. This presentation can be found as a separate attachment to these FOIs.

Please note you have submitted a high volume of FOIs to the Council; all of which relate to the same subject of the Direction of Travel and the Opportunity Area. We have as officers provided everything we hold on this subject matter, and cannot continue to dedicate time and resource to responding to these requests now that we have provided everything to you. Please bare this in mind when you are contacting the Council in the future as the council may consider further requests regarding this matter to be vexatious as defined by the Freedom of Information Act.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled you have the right to ask for an internal review. Please notify us in writing as soon as possible with the grounds upon which you feel the appeal is justified to: [foi@kingston.gov.uk](mailto:foi@kingston.gov.uk) or by post to Customer Care, Guildhall 2, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 1EU

We aim to respond to you within 20 working days of receiving your request. If it is going to take longer we will let you know.

Should you still be dissatisfied with the outcome you have the right to refer to the Information Commissioner: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Hannah Harris  
Lead Officer for Planning Policy

If this letter is not clear, please post it to: FREEPOST RBK BETTER LETTERS or ring 020 8547 5000.